

Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary's Shipwreck Mooring Buoy Program



To provide better access to Thunder Bay's historic shipwrecks, the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary (TBNMS) maintains seasonal moorings at several shipwreck sites. The moorings make the sites easier to locate and provide a safe means of descent and ascent for visitors. The moorings also greatly reduce the likelihood of anchor damage to these often fragile historic sites.

Approved by the U. S. Coast Guard, the moorings are a safe, highly-visible replacement for the many small and unlicensed marker floats which are frequently left at the sites. The buoys are white with a horizontal blue stripe and lighted to increase visibility at night. The mooring buoys are installed and removed seasonally, so be sure to check with the TBNMS before planning your trip.

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Marine Sanctuary**
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NATIONAL MARINE
SANCTUARIES

THUNDER BAY



Lake Huron's unpredictable weather, murky fog banks, sudden gales and rocky shoals helped Thunder Bay earn the unfortunate name of "Shipwreck Alley."

Vessels bound to and from Lakes Michigan and Superior all passed by Thunder Bay, and during the Great Lakes' 200-year shipping history, scores of vessels ended their careers on the lake floor off Alpena, Michigan. The area is now a haven for recreational divers, snorkelers, and kayakers.

Current shipwrecks marked with TBNMS seasonal mooring buoys:

| Site | Depth | Latitude | Longitude |
|---------------------------------------|-------|------------|------------|
| <i>E.B. Allen</i> (bow) | 105' | 45°00.994N | 83°09.922W |
| <i>Barge #1</i> (stern) | 42' | 45°00.973N | 83°18.252W |
| <i>Oscar T. Flint</i> (bow) | 30' | 45°01.568N | 83°20.843W |
| <i>Grecian</i> (bow) | 89' | 44°58.109N | 83°12.057W |
| <i>Grecian</i> (stern) | 89' | 44°58.099N | 83°11.979W |
| <i>Monohansett</i> | 17' | 45°01.996N | 83°11.988W |
| <i>Montana</i> (bow) | 66' | 44°59.025N | 83°16.013W |
| <i>Montana</i> (stern) | 66' | 44°59.046N | 83°16.038W |
| <i>Shamrock</i> (stern) | 13' | 45°03.077N | 83°26.043W |
| <i>Lucinda Van Valkenburg</i> (stern) | 69' | 45°03.380N | 83°10.180W |

